

TOWN OF LUNENBURG MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



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Town Manager

COVID-19 Update
December 1, 2020

UPDATES FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Here are a number of updates specific to Lunenburg that will also be posted on the town website, town Facebook page, the “townwide” listserv, sent to the Lunenburg Ledger and to Public Access:

COVID-19 in Lunenburg:

The Board of Health issued their weekly update and the cumulative laboratory confirmed number of COVID-19 cases reported to the Town is 205 as of November 25th and one death. The State report shows 195 as of November 25th. The COVID-19 Information Center page can be found [here](#).

UPDATES RECEIVED FROM THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNEMENT:

The Baker-Polito Administration continues to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. A comprehensive list of emergency orders and guidance is available at mass.gov/covid19 (click [here](#)).

COVID-19 in Massachusetts (as of 11/25/20):

As of November 25th there are 207,284 COVID-19 cases and 10,372 deaths and 8,130,694 patients have been tested to date by the MA State Public Health Laboratory, hospitals and commercial laboratories.

This information is now posted on the Department of Public Health COVID-19 website, with a breakdown of coronavirus cases by city and town. The page can be accessed by going to: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting#covid-19-cases-by-city/town->. The Department of Public Health has created a dashboard as well with comprehensive, detailed COVID-19 data, including trend data, case rates, testing, and breakdowns by age, sex, race, ethnicity and geography. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-dashboard->

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Launch of “Get Back Mass” Public Awareness Effort:

On Monday, November 23rd the Baker-Polito Administration launched a new public awareness effort to encourage residents to continue to stay safe and remain vigilant. The statewide campaign “Get Back Mass” highlights the critical steps everyone should take – wearing a mask and practicing good hygiene, keeping a safe distance, and getting tested – to protect themselves and their loved ones. The multilingual campaign will run on several platforms including television and digital ads.

The campaign features residents from across the Commonwealth who, in their own words, draw the connection between taking precautions so that they can “get back” to the activities, people, and experiences they enjoy – like attending live sporting events or concerts, throwing their child a birthday party, going out dancing with friends, or going on a “real” date. The campaign underscores the importance of taking precautions like wearing a mask so the Commonwealth can slow the spread of the virus and keep our communities safe while COVID-19 remains with us.

The Get Back Mass campaign launched with social media messages that highlight safety tips, digital animated videos in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Chinese (simplified and traditional) and Vietnamese, and information posters that will be displayed in convenience stores. Television advertisements in English and Spanish will run on broadcast and digital channels, continuing through February. All campaign components lead to a landing page, mass.gov/GetBack, which highlights the three key behaviors it takes to #GetBackMass:

- **Wear a mask.** Wear a mask or face covering in public to slow the spread of COVID-19. [Learn about how and when to wear one.](#)
- **Keep your distance.** No matter what, six feet or more is best. [Learn about ways to lower your risk when you are around others.](#)
- **Get tested.** [Find out when and where to get a COVID-19 test.](#)

The Get Back Mass campaign is the latest in a series of public awareness efforts the Commonwealth has taken to curb the spread of COVID-19, including the [September launch](#) of mass.gov/stopCOVID19 following the Administration’s establishment of the COVID-19 Enforcement and Intervention Team (CEIT), awareness for the “[Stop the Spread](#)” testing initiative, and [#MaskUpMA](#), a continuous campaign that reminds residents to wear face coverings to stop COVID-19 spread.

Helpful Links:

- **NEW:** [Get Back Mass](#)
- [Mass.gov/holidays](https://mass.gov/holidays)
- [Tips for a Safe Thanksgiving](#)
- [Mass.gov/findfoodhelp](https://mass.gov/findfoodhelp)
- [Stop the Spread](#)
- HandHoldMA.org
- [Reopening Massachusetts](#)
- Mass.Gov/covid19
- [Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency](#)

- [Unemployment & COVID-19](#)
- [Dept. Of Transitional Assistance Online Portal](#)
- [Emergency Childcare Site](#)
- [COVID-19 Cost Eligibility and Tracking Guidance](#)

Resources:

MassSupport

MassSupport is the Massachusetts Crisis Counseling Program funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and managed in partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and Riverside Trauma Center, a program of Riverside Community Care.

Contact MassSupport by phone at **888-215-4920** or by email at [**MassSupport@riversidecc.org**](mailto:MassSupport@riversidecc.org)

Red Cross Virtual Family Assistance Center

In order to provide support to families and communities who have suffered loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the American Red Cross has developed a Virtual Family Assistance Center (VFAC), staffed by a team of specially trained mental health, spiritual care, and health services volunteers who are:

- Connecting with families over the phone to offer condolences, emotional and spiritual support, and access to available resources
- Providing support for virtual memorial services for families, including connecting with local faith-based community partners
- Hosting online classes to foster resilience and facilitate coping skills
- Assisting families with access to national, state, or local resources such as grief counseling, legal resources, funeral information, financial information services, or veterans' assistance
- Additional state- and local-specific resources are available.

People can visit: <https://www.redcross.org/virtual-family-assistance-center/ma-family-assistance-center.html> to access this resource with special virtual programs, information, referrals, and services to support families in need. People without internet access can **call toll-free 833-492-0094** for help. All Family Assistance Center support will be provided virtually and is completely confidential and free.

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) now reports on the number of positive COVID-19 cases as reported to the DESE by school districts (including charter schools), collaboratives, and approved special education schools. The data only represents what has been reported to DESE. For more information and to view the report people can visit: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/positive-cases/>

COVID-19 Test Site Locator

MEMA, in conjunction with the COVID-19 Command Center, has developed an [interactive map](#) that shows the locations of COVID-19 testing sites around the Commonwealth: <https://memamaps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=eba3f0395451430b9f631cb095febf13>

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Massachusetts COVID-19 Response Dashboard

MEMA has developed and maintains a public-facing COVID-19 ArcGIS Online dashboard, available [here](#). This dashboard is continuously updated and captures information about current COVID 19 case counts, cases by age, cases by county, hospital status, hospital bed status, death tolls, and deaths by age. Users should refresh the dashboard daily as enhancements are continuously being added.

Health care facilities can learn more about **requesting personal protective equipment here**.

Stay Informed

- Visit <https://member.everbridge.net/index/406686158291020/#/signup> to sign-up for **AlertsMA** for the latest news on the Commonwealth's response to COVID-19
- Take care of your emotional health:
- Call 2-1-1 and choose the "CALL2TALK" option.
- Samaritans is continuing operations 24/7, as always. During this unprecedented time, it can feel overwhelming to receive constant messages about COVID-19. Call or text their 24/7 helpline any time at 877-870-4673.
- The Disaster Distress Helpline, 1-800-985-5990, is a 24/7, 365-day-a-year, national hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster, including disease outbreaks like COVID-19. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all residents in the United States and its territories.